STATEMENT-II

Production/Investment

Year	C-Dot Design		ITI Design	
	Production	Investment	Production	Investment
1993-94	11.54 Lakh lines	54.34 crore	1.454 Lakh lines	5 crore
1994-95	12.50 Lakh lines	46.70 crore	0.158 Lakh lines	4 crore
1995-96	7.34 Lakh lines	47.49 crore	0.106 Lakh lines	2 crore
	31.38 Lakh lines	148.49 crore	1.718 Lakh lines	11 crore

C-DOT switching equipment manufacturers have invested Rs. 120 crores in the manufacturing infrastructure in the last decade.

Figures relating to investment indicated in the Table above includes the expenditure on development of projects for indigenouns switches and related transmission equipment and terminals.

Foreign participation in Mining Sector

3067. SHRI VIJAY PATEL : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have approved foreign equity participation of 50% in the mining sector and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) and (b). The National Mineral Policy, 1993 (for non-atomic and non-fuel minerals) envisages, inter-alia, private investment, both domestic and foreign, in the Mineral Sector. While foreign investment in equity would normally be limited to 50%, this limitation would not apply to captive mines of any mineral processing industry. Enhanced foreign equity holding can also be considered on case to case basis. As per Section 5(1) of the Mines & Minerals (Regulation & Development) Act, 1957, any company registered in India can apply to the respective State Governments for grant of Prospecting Licence or Mining Lease.

STD Facility to Sub-divisional Hqs

3068. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide the facilities for STD link to each sub divisional Headquarter of India and important centres by the end of 1997;

(b) if so, the details of the Headquarters located in West Bengal for STD link;

(c) whether the Government propose to connect all blocks of West Bengal by STD link; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All the 54 Sub-divisional Headquarters in West Bengal have been provided with STD facility.

(c) and (d). There is no separate proposal as such. However, out of 322 Block Headquarters in West Bengal, 219 Block Headquarters have already been provided with STD facility. Remaining Block Headquarters shall be progressively covered in future subject to availability of funds.

[Translation]

Target Fixed for Post Offices

3069. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of targets fixed and achievements made in regard to opening of branch post offices and sub-post offices in the National Capital Region, Delhi during the last three years and in the current financial year till date;

(b) whether the Union Government propose to give priority to opening of branch post offices and sub-post offices in the Gram Panchayat Headquarters of backward and rural areas of Delhi;

(c) if so, the details of the villages of Delhi selected for this purpose; and

(d) the time by which this scheme is likely to be implemented and the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) The details of the targets fixed and achievements made in regard to opening of Branch Post Offices and Sub Post Offices in Delhi during the last 3 years and current financial year till date are given in statement-I. No separate allocation of targets is made for National Capital Region as the Post Offices are opened on the basis of norms-based justification subject